

ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 1D

We Don't Need More Education Spending Now

Proposition 1D is too big. Rather than limiting this bond measure to the essential needs of building new schools and rehabilitating older ones, this bond funds a variety of new, untested programs such as Career and Technical Education facilities, Overcrowding Relief Grants, seismic safety upgrades, energy efficiency incentives, small learning communities, and a medical education expansion with some new “telemedicine” program. We need to stick to the essentials and drop the fluff.

Proposition 1D is short-sighted. Governor Schwarzenegger's 10-year infrastructure plan gave the state a perfect opportunity to do some long-term planning. But what happened? We get another short-term bond proposal. Proposition 1D is only designed to fund the next two years of need. Even though many school districts are facing declining enrollment today, by the end of the decade enrollment in schools all over the state will begin growing again. How are schools supposed to plan if all they get are a series of short-term fixes?

Proposition 1D is more borrowing. Why do we have to incur more debt to build and modernize schools? We can expand year-round school and better utilize our existing school facilities. Why can't we fund school construction on a pay-as-you-go basis?

Proposition 1D is too costly. It is a \$10.4 billion education bond. The interest costs will push the total cost of the bond well above \$10.4 billion. Can we really afford this?

While education is important, it is not the only priority we need to worry about. We need to deal with other problems including holding down California's debt and borrowing. And, there are more important things to spend money on than new vocational education facilities, energy efficiency, and seismic safety upgrades. It's about time we said No to more and more education spending.

Vote NO on Proposition 1D.

WILLIAM SARACINO, Member
Editorial Board, California Political Review

1D

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 1D

VOTE YES ON 1D. HOW CAN WE AFFORD NOT TO INVEST IN OUR SCHOOLS?

Few things are more important for our children and our economy than to invest in education.

1D is the right solution to make our schools earthquake safe and build more classrooms to relieve overcrowding for our children. It will also help our state economy grow. It doesn't bite off more than we can afford to do right now, and it allows planning for the future that is vitally important.

1D will provide real results for our kids.

Our community colleges also give a rapidly growing student population the skills they need to succeed in the workforce. We cannot afford to shortchange them—California's future depends on their success.

That's why 1D has gained the support from parents, teachers, seniors, business and taxpayer groups, and a bipartisan group of the Legislature.

The California Taxpayers' Association says, “Proposition 1D is a fiscally responsible way to finance school repair and construction.”

Prop. 1D invests in:

- Construction of approximately 6,500 new K–12 classrooms and 3,000 community college classrooms
- Repair of 31,000 classrooms
- Building science, engineering labs, and classrooms
- Providing 3,000 vocational education facilities

Vote Yes on 1D. Invest in our children's future by investing in our schools today. A bright, highly skilled student population makes California a stronger, better place to live for all of us.

BRENDA DAVIS, President
California State PTA

LARRY McCARTHY, President
California Taxpayers' Association

WILLIAM HAUCK, President
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